

Application No. 10/527,241
Amendment Dated: April 15, 2009
Reply to Office Action of: December 22, 2008

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A mouse for a computer system, said mouse capable of conveying signals to the computer indicative of movement of said mouse across a working surface and being actuatable by a user to generate a signal to a computer, said mouse comprising:

a casing having a bottom part restable on the working surface and an upper part, said casing longitudinally extending from a front end to a rear end and having transversely spaced sides which are spaced so that the said casing is positionable between distal phalanxes of a user's ring and little fingers, and a distal phalanx of a user's thumb when a user's lower palm, user's ring and little fingertips, and a side of the distal phalanx of the user's thumb are resting on the working surface without gripping said mouse in the naturally relaxed curled fingers and hand position; and

a primary button ~~depressable~~ depressible relative to said casing and disposed at an upper front portion thereof, said primary button having on an angled upper surface thereof, ~~which is angled to the front end of said casing; and~~ ~~a primary fingertip receptacle at least partially extending upwardly from said angled upper surface of said primary button and forming a mould~~ formed around a user's index fingertip when placed on said angled upper surface of said primary

button slightly bent, said mould extending upwardly at a height, thereby providing which provides a moulded contact surface with the user's index fingertip, which allows the user to effect vertical movement of a pointer on a computer screen in both up- and downward directions when pushing by said index finger against said moulded contact surface, said ~~primary fingertip receptacle~~ mould enabling a user to effect horizontal movement of a pointer on a computer screen without the use of hand or arm movement of the user when turning said casing around its axis in said ~~receptacle~~ mould when pushing by a thumb or a little finger of the user against a respective contact area on a respective side of said casing when operating said mouse; said primary button being actuable by a generally downward forward force applied by said index finger when stretching against said moulded contact surface.

2. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 1 further comprising:

a secondary button ~~depressable~~ depressible relative to said casing and disposed transversely of said primary button at an upper front portion of said casing, said secondary button having on an angled upper surface thereof which ~~is angled to the front end of said casing;~~

~~a secondary fingertip receptacle at least partially extending upwardly from a said angled upper surface of said secondary button and forming a mould~~ formed around a user's middle fingertip when placed on said angled upper surface of said secondary button slightly bent, said mould extending upwardly at

a height, thereby providing which provides a moulded contact surface with the user's middle fingertip, which allows the user to effect vertical movement of a pointer on a computer screen in both up- and downward directions when pushing by said middle finger against said moulded contact surface, said ~~secondary fingertip-receptacle~~ mould enabling a user to effect horizontal movement of a pointer on a computer screen without the use of hand or arm movement of the user when turning said casing around its axis in said ~~receptacle~~ mould when pushing by a thumb or a little finger of the user against a respective contact area on a respective side of said casing when operating said mouse; said secondary button being actuable by a generally downward forward force applied by said middle finger against said moulded contact surface; and

a form of a rear part of said casing providing sufficient clearance between an upper surface and a rear surface of said casing, and a user's palm, and the user's index and middle fingers being placed in the said respective ~~receptacle moulds~~, so that said upper surface and said rear surface of said casing do not interfere with the user's palm, the heel of the user's hand, and the fingers when the user manipulates said mouse.

3. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 2 further comprising a wheel button disposed between the said primary ~~receptacle~~ button and the said secondary ~~receptacle~~ button, said wheel button accessible by at least one of the

Application No. 10/527,241
Amendment Dated: April 15, 2009
Reply to Office Action of: December 22, 2008

user's finger when a user's index finger and a user's middle finger are placed in the said respective ~~receptacle~~ moulds of the said primary and secondary buttons.

4. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 2, wherein ~~the primary and secondary receptacles~~ said moulds are located on the said primary button and the said secondary button, ~~respectively~~, so that a gap between the user's index finger and the user's middle finger being placed in the said respective ~~receptacles~~ moulds has a spacing distance, which allows a wheel button to be positioned between them.

5. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 3, wherein each said ~~receptacle~~ mould has a front portion and a center of said wheel is disposed rearwardly from the said front portions of said ~~receptacles~~ moulds.

6. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 1, wherein said ~~primary receptacle~~ mould of said primary button is formed from a moulded component comprising a pad and a rounded section, which tapers upwardly from the said pad and is symmetric about a medial plane.

7. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 2, wherein said ~~secondary receptacle~~ mould of said secondary button is formed from a moulded component

comprising a pad and a rounded section, which tapers upwardly from the said pad and is symmetric about a medial plane.

8. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 4, wherein the user's index and middle fingertips being placed in said respective ~~receptacles~~ moulds are elevated from the working surface at a height, which is reduced and substantially defined by an outside diameter of said wheel.

9. (Previously Submitted) The mouse of claim 1, wherein the sides of said casing each have a generally concave shape, which define a user's thumb, and a user's ring and little fingertips pinching areas.

10. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 9, wherein both sides of said casing in a user's thumb and a user's ring fingertip pinching areas are substantially vertical to the working surface over which ~~the~~ said mouse moves.

11. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 9, wherein a user's side of the distal phalanx of the thumb and a user's ring and little fingertips being placed on ~~the~~ said respective pinching areas register with the working surface over which ~~the~~ said mouse moves when a user manipulates ~~the~~ said mouse.

12. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 2, wherein a space exists between the user's palm and an upper surface of the said rear part of the said casing when the user shifts the said mouse by stretching or bending the user's index and middle fingers placed in the said respective ~~receptacles~~ moulds.

13. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 2, wherein a length of the said rear part of the said casing measured from the a front edge of said ~~primary and secondary receptacles~~ moulds allows a user to shift the said mouse from a neutral position of the user's finger by bending the user's index and middle fingers further in a pocket formed by the user's hand.

14. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 1 wherein a moulded contact surface is at least partially defined by at least one additional button having a user's index finger contact area and disposed rearwardly from said ~~primary receptacle~~ mould of said primary button so as to be capable of being actuated by bending the user's index finger positioned in said ~~primary receptacle~~ mould of said primary button and simultaneously pinching the mouse between a user's thumb and a user's ring and/or little fingertips.

15. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 14, wherein a contact portion of the ~~primary receptacle~~ said mould of said primary button and the said index finger contact area of the said additional button together form a contact shape

that substantially conforms to the shape of the distal phalanx of the user's index finger.

16. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 15, wherein a surface of the said contact portion of ~~the primary receptacle~~ said mould of said primary button is substantially level with a surface of the index finger contact area of the said additional button at all points along a boundary between ~~the primary receptacle~~ said mould of said primary button and the said index finger contact area of the said additional button.

17. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 14, wherein an interior portion of the distal phalange of the user's index finger contacts both a front portion of ~~said primary receptacle~~ mould of said primary button and a portion of the contact area of the said additional button when the user's index fingertip is positioned in ~~said primary receptacle~~ mould of said primary button.

18. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 14, wherein said additional button is actuated by bending the index finger and simultaneously pinching the sides of the said mouse between the user's thumb and the user's ring and/or little fingertips.

19. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 2 in which a moulded contact surface is at least partially defined by a second additional button having a middle finger contact area and disposed rearwardly from said ~~secondary receptacle~~ mould of said secondary button so as to be capable of being actuated by bending the user's middle finger positioned in said ~~secondary receptacle~~ mould of said secondary button and simultaneously pinching the said mouse between a user's thumb and a user's ring and/or little fingertips.

20. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 19, wherein a contact portion of ~~the secondary receptacle~~ said mould of said secondary button and the said middle finger contact area of ~~the~~ said second additional button together form a contact shape that substantially conforms to the shape of the distal phalanx of the user's middle finger.

21. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 20, wherein a surface of the contact portion of ~~the secondary receptacle~~ said mould of said secondary button is substantially level with a surface of ~~the~~ said middle finger contact area of the said second additional button at all points along a boundary between ~~the secondary receptacle~~ said mould of said secondary button and ~~the~~ said middle finger contact area of ~~the~~ said second additional button.

22. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 19, wherein an interior portion of the distal phalange of the user's middle finger contacts both a front portion of said ~~secondary receptacle~~ mould of said secondary button and a portion of the contact area of the said second additional button when the user's middle fingertip is positioned in said ~~secondary receptacle~~ mould of said secondary button.

23. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 19, wherein said second additional button is actuated by bending the middle finger and simultaneously pinching the sides of the said mouse between the user's thumb and a user's ring and/or little fingertips.

24. (Original) The mouse of claim 2, wherein said primary and secondary buttons each are parts of ends of levers, which longitudinally extend from a common plate on which other ends of the levers are firmly fixed.

25. (Original) The mouse of claim 19, wherein said additional buttons each are moveably fixed on said common plate.

26. (Canceled)

Application No. 10/527,241
Amendment Dated: April 15, 2009
Reply to Office Action of: December 22, 2008

27. (Original) The mouse of claim 24, wherein said casing has a cross panel in relation to said sides and said common plate is inclined toward said front end relative to said cross panel.

28. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 1 further comprising a mouse sensing system wherein a sensor thereof is located on said bottom part rearwardly from said front edge of said mould of said primary button along a central longitudinal axis of said casing at a distance, which allows the user to effect horizontal cursor movement on a computer screen when turning said casing around its axis in said mould of said primary button when pushing by the user's thumb or little finger against a respective contact area on a respective side of said casing.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer mouse for a computer system, wherein said mouse has a casing with at least one button depressible relative to said casing and disposed at an upper portion thereof to generate a signal to the computer, characterized in that a moulded component is mounted to an angled upper surface of the said button, said moulded component having a mould formed around a user's fingertip and which provides a contact surface with a user's fingertip, which is moulded around said fingertip when placed on said angled upper surface of said button slightly bent, said mould extending upwardly at a height, which provides a moulded contact surface with said user's fingertip,

~~thereby allowing~~ which allows the user to effect vertical movement of a pointer on a computer screen in both up- and downward directions when pushing by said finger against said moulded contact surface, said moulded component enabling a user to effect horizontal movement of a pointer on a computer screen without the use of the hand or arm movement of the user when turning said casing around its axis in said mould when pushing by a thumb or a little finger of the user against a respective contact area on a respective side of said casing when operating said mouse, said button being actuatable by a generally downward forward force applied by said finger when stretching against said moulded contact surface.

30. (Currently Amended) The mouse of claim 29, wherein there are two buttons, characterized in that a moulded component is mounted to an angled upper surface of each button whereby ~~wherein one~~ a first moulded component has a mould formed ~~provides a contact surface with a user's index fingertip which is moulded~~ around said a user's index fingertip when placed on said angled upper surface of said a first button slightly bent, and ~~the~~ a second moulded component ~~provides a contact surface with a user's middle fingertip which is moulded~~ has a mould formed around said a user's middle fingertip when placed on said angled upper surface of said a second button slightly bent, said moulds each extending upwardly at a height, which provide a moulded contact surfaces with a user's fingertips, ~~thereby allowing~~ which allows the user to effect vertical movement of a pointer on a computer screen in both up- and downward

Application No. 10/527,241
Amendment Dated: April 15, 2009
Reply to Office Action of: December 22, 2008

directions when pushing by one of said ~~finger~~ fingers against one of said moulded contact ~~surface~~ surfaces, each said moulded component enabling a user to effect horizontal movement of a pointer on a computer screen without the use of hand or arm movement of the user when turning said casing around its axis in one of said ~~mould~~ moulds when pushing by user's thumb or little finger against a respective contact area on a respective side of said casing when operating said mouse, each said button being actuatable by a generally downward forward force applied by one of said ~~finger~~ fingers when stretching against said moulded contact surface.